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had not thought the matter over so carefully, I should heartily endorse his criticism.

The angle φ as I use it is not "the least positive angle" but any angle, positive or negative, from the positive direction of the x -axis to the line. Precisely which angle is to be represented by φ in a particular case, is determined by convenience. The tangent formulæ are correct for all.

My reason for this is to avoid the discontinuity that otherwise occurs. According to the "least positive angle" definition a line with a small positive slope makes with the x -axis a small angle while a line with a small negative slope makes an angle near 180° . This leads to trouble when an angle passes through zero. For example, the curvature is usually defined as $d\varphi/ds$. I do not know of any calculus text where this formula is considered inexact at points where $\varphi = 0$. Yet that is the case if φ is the least positive angle.

In defining angles, several cases are to be considered. In determining a directed line, angles congruent, modulo 2π , are equivalent. In determining merely the position of a line, angles congruent, modulo π , are equivalent. In three dimensions there is often no distinction between positive and negative angles. In each of these cases it is not only unnecessary but actually inconvenient to fix the angle more precisely.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE COUNCIL.

During the past three months, the Council has taken official action on pressing matters which seemed to require immediate action. In general, the members of the Association will be informed of pending actions in order that their opinions may reach the Council before decisions are made. These questions did not appear to be of that kind.

The actions submitted by mail and approved thus far are as follows:

(1) The Council authorized the election to membership of all those who signed the original Call for the Columbus meeting, and of those who participated in that meeting.

(2) The Council authorized the Secretary to allow a few days, not to exceed ten days, of grace for mail to reach him after April 1st, so that those desiring to enter as charter members should not be excluded by accident or by unavoidable delay.

(3) The Council ordered that the books and magazines belonging to the Association be deposited in the Oberlin College Library, under direct charge of the Secretary of the Association and the Librarian of Oberlin College. It is understood that these books are to be kept in a separate and safe place, and that they are to be subject to withdrawals and to requests from members for temporary loan, subject to the further wishes of the Association. See also (7) below.

(4) The Council ordered that a summer meeting be held near the time of the summer meeting of the American Mathematical Society, in the buildings

of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which institution had formally invited the Association to hold such a meeting. A Committee on the Program and a separate Committee on Arrangements were authorized; and the President was asked to appoint these committees.

(5) The Council authorized the formation of a Committee on Mathematical Requirements, to be appointed by the President.

This Committee has now been appointed as follows: J. W. YOUNG, Dartmouth College, Chairman; A. R. CRATHORNE, University of Illinois; E. H. MOORE, University of Chicago; D. E. SMITH, Columbia University; and OSWALD VEBLEN, Princeton University. It is hoped that a tentative report and announcement of plans may be ready for presentation at the coming summer meeting.

(6) The Council ordered that the Secretary-Treasurer shall pay to the treasurer of each section of the Association all money actually received by him in payment of initiation fees of new members in the territory of that section, provided, however, that this money shall be used exclusively for the payment of the incidental expenses of the section itself, and that in no case shall the fees be returned to the individual initiates.

(7) The Council authorized the appointment of a committee to be known as the Library Committee. This committee will not only have general charge of the books and magazines belonging to the Association but it will have the larger function of stimulating by every feasible means the wider knowledge and use of mathematical books. Some proposed plans have already been referred to in connection with lists of books suitable for college libraries. These and other matters will be taken up at an early date. The committee has not yet been appointed.

(8) The Council authorized the appointment of a committee to have charge of a Bureau of Information. The duties of this committee will consist in answering inquiries aside from those pertaining to the solution of problems. A more complete statement concerning the work of this committee along with the names of the committee will be announced later.

The President has appointed the following committees for the summer meeting, in accordance with the authorization of the Council. In each case, the first named member is the chairman.

Program Committee: H. B. FINE, Princeton University; DUNHAM JACKSON, Harvard University; and C. S. SLICHTER, University of Wisconsin.

Committee on Arrangements: H. W. TYLER, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; H. E. HAWKES, Columbia University; G. D. OLDS, Amherst College; CLARA E. SMITH, Wellesley College; and R. G. D. RICHARDSON, Brown University. This committee later added to its number G. W. EVANS, Charlestown High School; H. D. GAYLORD, Browne and Nichols School; W. R. RANSOM, Tufts College, and MABEL M. YOUNG, Wellesley College.

These committees are authorized to fill any vacancies which may occur and to add to their own membership other members of the Association. They

have power to make all arrangements for the summer meeting. Announcements will be issued by them in due course, in the MONTHLY, and separately through the Secretary of the Association.

The Council has decided to hold the annual meeting in connection with the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science during the Christmas vacation. The meeting this year will be in New York City.

E. R. HEDRICK,
PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION.

THE SUMMER MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION.

It is definitely determined that the first summer meeting of the Association will be held at the new buildings of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Mass., on Friday and Saturday, September first and second.

The Program Committee has been asked to decide upon the topics to be discussed in the papers to be read at the meeting and to select the members of the Association who are to be invited to prepare these papers. The Committee will be glad to receive and to consider any suggestions which members of the Association may wish to send them relative to this matter. Numerous topics and speakers are under consideration and full announcement will be made in August by letter addressed to each member of the Association. All communications in regard to the program should be addressed to Professor H. B. FINE, Princeton, New Jersey.

The Association headquarters will be at Riverbank Court, Cambridge, where rooms may be reserved in advance. The Committee on Arrangements will also have further announcements to make concerning accommodations in both Cambridge and Boston. In particular, special arrangements will be made for ladies attending the meetings and correspondence on this point may be addressed to Professor CLARA E. SMITH, or to Dr. MABEL M. YOUNG, Wellesley College, Wellesley, Mass.

A regular summer excursion railroad rate of thirty dollars for the round trip from Chicago to Boston, and correspondingly low rates from certain other points will be available. Inquiry should be made of the local ticket agents. Persons arriving in Boston by land or water and desiring to reach the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, or Riverbank Court, should inquire for trolley car for Harvard Bridge, and leave the car at the Cambridge end of the bridge. Kendall Station of the Cambridge subway is five minutes' walk from the Institute. Mail and express may be addressed, at the time of the meeting, to Riverbank Court, Cambridge, or to the Mathematical Department, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

A dinner for members will be arranged on Friday evening, September first, at Riverbank Court, and luncheon will be served there between sessions on Friday and Saturday. If consistent with the plans of the Program Committee, there will be an automobile excursion to Wellesley, Mass., starting about four o'clock